



District of Columbia
Interagency Council on Homelessness



ERSO Committee
June 23, 2021

Meeting Agenda



- I. Welcome & Call to Order
- II. Introductions
- III. Updates:
 - a. Strategic Encampment Update
 - b. FY22 Priorities & Calendar for Upcoming Meetings
 - c. 801 East Employment Program
- IV. Discussion
 - a. Winter Plan (55 Minutes)
 - ✓ Timeline (5 min)
 - ✓ Breakout Groups (35 min)
 - ✓ Share out (15 min)
 - v. Updates & Announcements
- vi. **Adjournment**

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Homeward DC Strategic Priorities



The following goals and their sub strategies have a direct effect on the long term reduction of encampments:

- Goal 1: Identify and Address Barriers That Impede Development of New Permanent Supportive Housing;
- Goal 2: Increase Speed and Efficiency of Housing Lease-Up Process;
- Goal 3: Continue Capital and Program Improvements to Shelter Stock;
- Goal 4: Reform Front Door of System for Individuals;
- Goal 7: Improve Service Quality and Consistency;
- Goal 8: Improve Employment and Income Growth Opportunities for Clients;
- Goal 9: Improve Access to Care for Individuals with Complex Health Needs;

ERSO Focused Goals



ERSO focuses on three of these goals:

- ❖ Goal 3: Continue Capital and Program Improvements to Shelter Stock;
- ❖ Goal 4: Reform Front Door of System for Individuals;
 - Streamlining Intake
- ❖ Goal 7: Improve Service Quality and Consistency;
 - These topics usually fall in ERSO Committees:
 - ✓ Shelter Conditions
 - ✓ Outreach WG

Feedback



We have 5 minutes for feedback:

- Are there any strategic goals in Homeward DC 2.0 that we should prioritize to reduce the long term public health concern of encampments?
- In short term how do we abate the health and safety concerns of encampments?

If you have additional feedback please share with

encampment.reports@dc.gov

- ERSO will share dates/times of any scheduled community meetings on encampments, additionally the Outreach WG will continue its work to strengthen outreach services to encampment residents.

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ERSO Responsibilities & FY20-21 Priorities



• Roles & Responsibilities

- › Winter Plan, Input into HSEMA Heat Emergency Plan
- › Monitor, troubleshoot and coordinate capacity, conditions, services, programming and case management at the front door (on our streets, in our shelters and at our day time facilities)
- › Improve connections to MH and SUD services

• FY20 - 21 Projects/Priorities

- › Coordinate (Post) COVID operations
- › Develop Program Rules for temporary/specialized beds
- › Improve Case Management services in shelter
- › Ensure clients in shelter have access to Home Health Aides
- › Streamline Intake

• ERSO Workgroups

- › Shelter Conditions
- › Shelter Capacity
- › Outreach



Identifying FY22 Priorities



Review ERSO Responsibilities & FY20-21 Priorities

- ❖ Roles & Responsibilities
- ❖ Additional Project/Priorities &
- ❖ Work Groups

Potential Items from 6/08 Executive Committee Mtg:

- ❖ LGBTQ+ Shelter
- ❖ DBH services (e.g. sobering/crisis center and telehealth services/opportunities)
- ❖ DOES services (e.g. workforce recovery and rapid reskilling opportunities)

Calendar for Upcoming Meetings



June Meeting	September Meeting
<p>ERSO Priority/Calendar Review Encampment Update 801 East Employment Program Winter Plan Feedback</p>	<p>Capital Improvement Updates and Design Report Out: Shelter Conditions WG Report Out: Outreach WG</p>
July Meeting	October Meeting
<p>FY22 Priorities Shelter Capacity Review Winter Plan Deep Dive Post COVID Operations</p>	<p>Debrief Hyperthermia Season Prep for Hypothermia Season 801 East Opening Prep</p>
August Meeting	November/December Meeting
<p>Winter Plan Approval Streamlining Intake Feedback EHV Check-In (Tentative) 801 East Program Rules Feedback</p>	<p>Hypothermia Season Check In</p>



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801 East Employment Project



The program steps were as follows:

- ❖ Two introduction sessions at the 801 East shelter to discuss the opportunity
- ❖ Interviews with contractor
- ❖ Selection of candidates
- ❖ Intake/Paid Training



801 East Employment Project



All individuals who attended the paid training were hired and reported to their first day on the job site this week!



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Winter Plan Timeline



June	Initial Feedback from ERSO
	Capacity Review in Shelter Capacity WG
July	Shelter Capacity Report Out at ERSO
	Winter Plan Deep Dive at ERSO
August	Plan approval by ERSO
September	Plan approval by Executive Committee

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Winter Plan Initial Feedback



- ❖ Feedback that has been provided through ERSO across the last few months is being used to develop plans for post-COVID operations in shelter.
- ❖ These post-COVID operations decisions are crucial to drafting the Winter Plan, therefore we will present a draft to this group after those decisions have been made.
- ❖ In order to ensure we receive your feedback in advance, we will be asking questions based on two different potential postures: shelters open 24/7, or shelters returning to closing during the day.

Winter Plan Initial Feedback



Transportation

- If shelter operations continue 24/7:
 - What are your questions and concerns regarding transportation?
 - Should we return to scheduled transportation? Why/Why Not?
- If shelter operations are not 24/7:
 - How do we make transportation safe?
 - How do we ensure we have the transportation capacity needed?

Capacity

- If operations continue 24/7:
 - What are the pros and cons of keeping a decreased shelter capacity in each shelter even if it means finding more hypothermia locations? (Consider this if operations continue 24/7 or if they do not)
- Knowing we will be losing capacity when Pat Handy legacy closes how could we add capacity to our system? What locations/areas are ideal?
 - Options: repurposing under-utilized family facilities? additional hypothermia facilities? Other ideas?
 - Location options: Downtown? West End? Other ideas?

Plan Awareness/Marketing

- Any challenges/successes with last years marketing/sharing of plan?
- Any specific recommendations for this year?



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CDC Updated Guidance



Health guidance is evolving. We will likely see additional guidance from the CDC and DC Health that will provide additional information about COVID protections as the District continues to re-open. Updated shelter guidance released on June 14. Protective measures still strongly recommended.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/plan-prepare-respond.html>

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